# OUR CULTURE IS CHANGING.



# IS YOUR CHURCH PREPARED?

ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM
CHURCH ALLIANCE

# OUR CULTURE IS CHANGING

Our culture is becoming increasingly hostile to Christianity. Now is the time for churches to stand together for religious freedom.

The legal needs of churches across the country have increased as a result of the changing culture. Today, it is not a question of *if* churches will be threatened or sued for standing true to God's Word – the question is *when* and *where* such cases will arise.

Local governments have attempted to legislate transgender ideology and control how ministries can use restrooms and other private areas. Cities have treated church leaders like second-class citizens – refusing to let them use public spaces for worship services. States are forcing churches to provide elective abortion coverage in employee health plans. Public officials and politicians threaten local churches' tax exempt status.

ADF Church Alliance provides churches with the practical legal help they need in these changing times.

Becoming an ADF Church Alliance member not only prepares and serves the legal needs of your church, but it also helps other churches encountering legal issues in their communities. Membership in this program makes a difference for the religious freedom of all churches.

When we join together, freedom is protected, churches are empowered, and more people hear the life-changing Gospel.

Is your church equipped to handle legal challenges related to sexual orientation and gender identity?

If your religious freedom is threatened, do you have likeminded Christian counsel to help you?

Has an experienced religious liberty attorney recently reviewed your church constitution, bylaws, employment documents, and policies?

Is your church prepared for changes in the law impacting religious liberty?

By joining ADF Church Alliance, you can answer "yes" to these questions.

# PREPARE & PROTECT YOUR CHURCH

Churches need legal preparation and help. ADF Church Alliance membership prepares and protects churches in the face of religious freedom threats. Your membership is an investment in religious freedom for your church - and all churches - for today and for future generations.

### **HOW WE SERVE**

### **DOCUMENT REVIEW**

We review your church constitution, bylaws, employment documents, and policies from a religious liberty perspective. Then, we make recommendations on how you can provide additional protection to your church. Whenever you make changes to your documents, we are available to review them.

### **ATTORNEY ACCESS**

Whenever you have legal questions, you can consult directly with an ADF attorney. When legal issues arise threatening your religious liberty, you can have peace of mind knowing we will help you navigate them.

### LEGAL RESOURCES

ADF Church Alliance members can access a members-only website with on demand video trainings, sample documents, legal guides, trending news on cases, and more. Members also receive e-newsletters with legal updates that are impacting the Body of Christ.

### LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Your church, and Bible believing churches like yours, can have the legal representation you need when facing a religious liberty threat. If necessary and appropriate, we can represent your church in court at no additional cost to you.

Alliance Defending Freedom has advocated for religious freedom since 1994. Your membership helps support individuals, churches, and organizations that seek to freely live out their faith.



3,700
ADF WORKS WITH OVER
3,700 ALLIED ATTORNEYS



80%
ADF HAS WON NEARLY
80% OF OUR CASES



ADF HAS PLAYED A ROLE
IN 61 U.S. SUPREME
COURT VICTORIES

Because precedent-setting cases can impact the entire nation, a victory for any church is a victory for the Church. Your membership can keep the legal doors open for the life-changing Gospel.

## **VICTORY**

Our team is committed to victory so that churches can flourish. The church stories below represent a few of our notable wins.



#### HORIZON CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP V. WILLIAMSON

The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination interpreted the commonwealth's public accommodations law to apply to churches. The commission decided that churches should be forced to open their changing rooms, shower facilities, restrooms, and other private areas to anyone based on their asserted gender identity.

With the help of Alliance Defending Freedom, Horizon Christian Fellowship won this case. This allowed churches across Massachusetts to use their facilities in alignment with their faith.



#### BRONX HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH V. BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Bronx Household of Faith outgrew its meeting place in homes and needed a bigger, yet affordable, place to gather for worship. The only viable option for this church was to meet in one of New York City's public schools.

School officials turned down the church's application because of its policy prohibiting worship services, even though they allowed other groups, including churches, to meet for other purposes. ADF initiated a strong legal challenge to the policy, and now religious groups are allowed to hold worship services in the schools.



#### **REED V. TOWN OF GILBERT**

Alliance Defending Freedom represented Clyde Reed, a pastor of a small church in Gilbert, AZ. In a 9-0 victory at the United States Supreme Court, the Court found that the Town of Gilbert's sign code discriminated against the church.

Pastor Reed stood for his freedom of speech. More importantly, he stood for the right to freely share the Gospel by inviting the public to his church. With God's blessing, we had a big win for his church and churches across the nation.



#### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF COLUMBIA, INC. V. COMER

In a 7-2 victory, Alliance Defending Freedom defended another church at the United States Supreme Court and established the legal principle that churches should not be excluded from general public benefits solely because of their religious status. This win helps ensure that churches will not be discriminated against and will be able to equally participate in public programs and benefits. This Missouri church stood for religious freedom, and its victory is a victory for the entire Church.

"IF ONE MEMBER SUFFERS, ALL SUFFER TOGETHER; IF ONE MEMBER IS HONORED, ALL REJOICE TOGETHER."

1 CORINTHIANS 12:26

## ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM STATEMENT OF FAITH

ADF Church Alliance members should be in general agreement and be able to certify that their church's statement of faith (or similar document) does not materially conflict with the following statement of faith and the Alliance Defending Freedom Doctrinal Distinctives.

Based on our adherence to the inspired, infallible, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God in Scripture, we profess with the Christian Church throughout time and around the world the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*"catholic" in this contect refers to the body of Christ. This usage simply means "universal, general, or concerning the whole." In this statement, the term could generally be substituted with "Christian."

#### **Alliance Defending Freedom Doctrinal Distinctives**

Also, based on this confession, we are committed to honoring God by obeying the two Greatest Commandments, loving God and loving neighbor, and based on that commitment and derived from the inspired, infallible, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God in Scripture, we profess the following as necessary for living the gospel:

We believe in the spiritual unity and equality of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe that the Lordship of Christ requires us as disciples to seek to conform our actions, thoughts, and desires in obedience to Him.

**We believe** God creates each person with an immutable biological sex — male or female — that reflects the image and likeness of God.

**We believe** God designed marriage as a unique conjugal relationship joining one man and one woman in a single, exclusive, life-long union, and God intends sexual intimacy only to occur within that relationship.

We believe God endows all human life with inherent dignity, and it must be respected and protected from conception to natural death.

**We believe** that God has endowed all humans with the natural and inalienable right of religious freedom to believe, pursue truth, and live within ordered liberty such that no civil government may justly infringe upon it.

We believe that God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, calls all of us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Him and that, in exchange, He promises us abundant life.

# MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS & SERVICES

#### As an ADF Church Alliance member, you will receive:

- ✓ Legal review of church bylaws and policies that relate to protecting your church's religious liberty
- ✓ Direct access to attorneys to answer your questions about protecting your church's religious liberty
- Consultation for legal issues involving your church's religious liberty (prior to litigation)
- ✓ Legal representation in cases involving the church's religious liberty, and that meet our guidelines:
  - Employment
  - · Land use
  - Tax exemption
  - Clergy confidentiality
  - Requests to use church facilities

- Government mandates or unconstitutional regulation
- Volunteer requirements
- Equal access to government property or benefits
- · Church memeber discipline/removal

✓ Specialized resources such as webinars and newsletters tailored to protecting the religious liberty of the church

ADF Church Alliance is not an insurance program, and Alliance Defending Freedom is not an insurance company. ADF will typically represent ADF Church Alliance members in all litigation related to protecting the religious liberty of the church. However, ADF cannot guarantee legal representation in every situation and does not provide casualty payments for a lawsuit. Any legal representation undertaken by ADF is without cost to ADF Church Alliance members.

Some church legal matters involve administrative tribunals such as zoning boards and tax agencies. ADF normally does not appear as legal counsel before administrative agencies or administrative tribunals. ADF will do its best to assist in finding local counsel for administrative phases of legal matters that fall within the ADF Church Alliance scope of services, but cannot guarantee that local counsel representation will be obtained or will be free of charge.

#### Matters ADF does not provide legal representation for include, but are not limited to:

- Intra-ministry, inter-ministry, or denominational disputes or negotiations
- Allegations of child abuse or criminal prosecutions unrelated to religious liberty
- Tax advice, tax audits, or investigations that do not relate to religious liberty
- Start-up and filing requirements (e.g., 501(c)(3) applications, sales tax exemption applications, corporate filings)
- · Advice regarding corporate structure or general liability issues not related to religious liberty
- General advice regarding government contracts or grant agreements
- Drafting business contracts such as rental agreements or vendor contracts
- International legal matters or compliance with international law
- Land use cases wherein discrimination or unequal treatment is not present
- · Child protection policies
- Church/Ministry security policies
- Issues related to government overreach generally that do not pertain to religious liberty
- Matters where the requested representation is prohibited under applicable rules of professional conduct, including situations that could present a conflict of interest with current or former ADF clients
- Other matters not specifically covered in the scope of services

ADF has the sole authority to determine whether a request for advice or representation falls within the scope of services offered, or can otherwise be accepted, by ADF Church Alliance.

Membership in ADF Church Alliance provides each member access to ADF attorneys who will provide legal guidance as relative to each situation and as determined on a case by case basis by the attorneys. ADF reserves the authority to direct the specific course of representation including, but not limited to, whether to litigate any particular legal matter. By joining, and per Arizona Rule of Professional Conduct 1.2(c), which ADF operates under, ADF Church Alliance members hereby provide informed consent to this limited representation.

Alliance Defending Freedom reserves the right to terminate any membership agreements and/or add, change, or remove rules, conditions of membership, scope of services, and all services offered by and through ADF Church Alliance at any time and in its sole discretion. In the event of membership termination, Alliance Defending Freedom shall only be obligated to return to a former member any prepaid but unused membership dues, without penalty or interest.

As licensed professionals, ADF attorneys have ethical duties and obligations that can occasionally limit their ability to provide representation. For example, an ADF attorney may be unable to represent a client if the requested legal representation would create a conflict of interest with one or more of ADF's current or former clients, including other Church Alliance members. So, for instance, if a church denomination asks ADF to provide legal advice about a situation involving a church that is also a member of ADF Church Alliance, ADF attorneys may be prohibited from accepting representation. However, in those situations when the conflict of interest is unavoidable, ADF will do its best to provide a referral to an outside attorney, though it cannot guarantee the referred attorney will offer his or her services pro bono.

Signature

## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Date

#### APPLY ONLINE AT ADFCHURCHALLIANCE.ORG, OR FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND SUBMIT IT VIA:

<b>EMAIL</b> ChurchAlliance@ADF	legal.org   <b>FAX</b> 4	80-444-00	028   <b>MAIL</b>	L 15100 N. 90	th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85260
Name				Title	
Email				Phone	
Church Name				Church Phone	
Church Address					
City				State	Zip
Denomination Church Ema					
Pastor Name Pastor Emo					
How did you hear about us?:					
Do you have a promo code?:					
Church Attendance	Monthly Plan	Annual Plan		SELECT	PLAN ((()
Up to 150	□ \$25	□ \$	250	The price	The price of ADF Church Alliance membership
151-500	□ \$50	□ \$500 □ \$1,000 □ \$2,000		is based on average church attendance and whether payment is made monthly or up front at a discounted rate. Membership is an annual agreement that is automatically renewed unless canceled. Please check the appropriate box to	
501-1000	□ \$100				
1001-2000	□ \$200				
Over 2,000	□ \$400	□ \$	4,000	select a monthly OR annual payment plan.	
VISA				Are you currently represented by an attorney? If so, please provide name:	
Name on Card				Are you currently involved in litigation, or do you have a current legal issue? If so, please describe.	
Billing Address associated with car	rd				
Card#	-	-			
Expiration	V-Code				
Freedom reserves the right to termine all services offered by and through Freedom shall only be obligated to and understand the ADF Statement	ate any membership agreer ADF Church Alliance at any preturn to a former member of Faith and agree that the selves generally likeminded ged for the amount indicated	ments and/o y time and in er any prepo e above nan d. I affirm tho d above.	r add, change, or n its sole discretic aid but unused m ned church's state it this church stand	remove rules, cor on. In the event o nembership dues, ement of faith (or ds in full agreeme	ervices. I also understand Alliance Defendin nditions of membership, scope of services, an f membership termination, Alliance Defendin without penalty or interest. I have also rea similar document) is compatible with the AD ent with the ADF Doctrinal Distinctives. I agre

## JOIN TODAY



STEP 3
KEEP THE LEGAL DOORS OPEN
FOR THE GOSPEL

WHEN IT COMES TO PROTECTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, EVERY CHURCH MATTERS.

JOIN TODAY:
ADFChurchAlliance.org

